

# Public Meetings

---

- **4 Meetings**

- **November 8: West Trenton NJ (2)**
- **November 14: Narrowsburg, NY**
- **November 15: Newark, DE**

# A Comprehensive Water Resources Plan for the Delaware River Basin



# Why?

---

- DRBC Compact
- Existing Comprehensive Plan
- Water Resources Program
- Need for Direction
- Need for Measurable Goals



Delaware River Basin Commission

# Objectives

---

- **Forward Looking - Results Based**
- **Basinwide Water Resource Management Plan**
- **Holistic**
- **Broad Based Consensus**
- **Implementable**



# Issues

---

- **Scope of Plan**
  - DRBC limited?
- **Gap Analysis vs Goal-Based Planning**
- **Stretch Goals vs Realistic Outcomes**
- **Environment, Economy & Community**
- **Geographic Scale**

# The Process

---

- **Facilitated Process**
- **Active Stakeholder Involvement**
- **Watershed Advisory Council**
- **Public Outreach**
- **Adoption by Commissioners**



# The Process (*continued*)

- Council - Draft Goals and Objectives
- Public - Response
- Commission - Interim Approval
- Advisory Committees
  - Reality Check
  - Management Strategies
- Council - Refining of Goals & Objectives

# The Process (*continued*)

- Public – Response
- Council/Advisory Committees – Roles & Responsibilities
- Council – Funding Needs
- All – Draft Final Plan
- Public – Response
- Commissioners – Approval
- ACTION!



# Schedule

---

- Public Meetings: Mid-November '01
- Council Workshop Dec 4-5: Recommend Goals & Objectives to Commissioners
- Feb '02: Commissioners Review and Assign to Advisory Committees
- March - Nov '02: Develop Management Strategies
- Dec '02: Public Review of Strategies

## Schedule *(continued)*

- March '03: Council Recommends Strategies to Commissioners
- April - Sept '03: Council Prepares Draft Comprehensive Plan
- Oct '03: Public Hearings on Plan
- Nov - Dec '03: Revise Plan and Submit to Commissioners for Approval

# Programmatic Issues

- **Water Quantity and Quality**
  - Inter/Intra Basin Transfers
  - Priorities/Mgt. for Water Use
  - Land Use and Water Resource Protection
- **Needs Analysis/Projections**
- **Institutional Relationships**
- **Public Awareness/Education**

# Overview of the Proposed Comprehensive Plan Goals

# Key Result Areas

---

- Many Potential Groupings
- Functions, Not Regulatory “Silos”
- Five Themes

# Key Result Areas

- **Manage the Quantity and Quality of the Water Resources of the Delaware River Basin for Sustainable Use**
- **Waterway Corridor Management**
- **Land Use and Land Management for Water Resources Protection**
- **Institutional Coordination & Cooperation for Water Resources Management**
- **Public Education and Involvement**

# Manage the Quantity and Quality of the Water Resources of the Delaware River Basin for Sustainable Use



# Manage the Quantity and Quality of the Water Resources of the Delaware...

- **Goal 1 - Base Water Uses on Available Water to Balance Multiple Demands**
- **Goal 2 - Water Quantity & Quality to Support Aquatic Ecosystems**
- **Goal 3 - Water Quantity & Quality for Domestic, Municipal, Industrial, and Agricultural Water Needs**
- **Goal 4 - Water Quantity & Quality for Flow-Dependent Recreational Activities**



# Waterway Corridor Management



# Waterway Corridor Management

---

- **Goal 1 - Flooding Shouldn't Cause Loss of Life or Damage Property**
- **Goal 2 - Increase Sustainable Recreational Use**
- **Goal 3 - Healthy and Diverse Riparian & Instream Aquatic Ecosystems**

# Land Management for Water Resources Protection



# Land Management for Water Resources Protection

- **Goal 1 - Integrate Water Resource Considerations Into Local Land Use Planning & Management**
- **Goal 2 - Develop and Re-develop in Areas with Available Infrastructure to Improve Economic Viability of Community**
- **Goal 3 - Water Resource Protection Through Open Space Preservation & Protection of Environmentally Sensitive Lands**
- **Goal 4 - Preserve Ag Use of Land to Protect Water Resources**

# Institutional Coordination & Cooperation for Water Resources Management



# Institutional Coordination & Cooperation for Water Resources Management

---

- **Goal 1 - Interstate/Federal Coordination & Cooperation**
- **Goal 2 - Share Data, Information & Ideas**
- **Goal 3 - Adequate Funding for Cooperative Water Resource Planning & Management Programs & Projects**



# Education for Water Resources Management & Stewardship



# Education for Water Resources Management & Stewardship

- **Goals 1 - 4: Water Resource Awareness of:**
  - School Children
  - Adults
  - Businesses
  - Local Officials
- **Goal 5 - Share Ideas & Information Among Water Resource Professionals**





**Delaware River Basin Commission**

DELAWARE • NEW JERSEY  
PENNSYLVANIA • NEW YORK  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

[www.drbc.net](http://www.drbc.net)

# Public Response:

---

- **Support for Basin-wide Plan**
- **Overall Direction is Good**
- **Engaged and Interested**

# Public Response

---

- **CONSISTENTLY HEARD:**
  - **Water Budgets are Important**
  - **Inter-basin Transfers Need Discussion**
  - **Drought Management a Concern**
  - **Land Use and Water Quality Linked**

# Regional Responses

- **NARROWSBURG, NEW YORK**
  - NYC Water Usage and Effects on Flow
  - Institutional Cooperation is Important
  - Reservoir Releases
    - Uneven
    - Base on biological as well as engineering considerations
  - Develop Flow Targets for Stream Segments Downstream of Reservoirs

# Regional Responses

---

- **WEST TRENTON, NEW JERSEY**
  - More Data Needed
  - More Information to Decision Makers
  - Water Budgets Should be not be Based on Average Conditions
  - Technical Support Is Important
  - Review Regulatory Constraints (gray water, reuse, storm water, local supply & zoning)

# Regional Responses

---

- **NEWARK, DELAWARE**
  - Do Not Reinvent the Wheel; Refer to Delaware Estuary CCMP and Other Watershed Plans
  - Create Opportunities for Adaptive Management, Flexible Solutions, Innovations
  - HUC 11 is manageable watershed scale

# Conclusions

---

- **Public Meetings Served Their Purpose**
- **Good Feedback to Improve the Goals Document**
- **Nothing Heard to Stop Us from Moving Forward**
- **Comments from Council Members Who Attended**



Questions?